MEMORANDUM

TO: Governing Board Members

THROUGH: Chip Merriam, Deputy Executive Director, Water Resources Management

FROM: Kenneth G. Ammon, P.E., Director, Water Supply Department

DATE: July 24, 2002

SUBJECT: Water Use Rule Development Policy Discussion: "B" List Rules

SUMMARY

Staff seeks to present the policy issues associated with proposed "B" list rules for water use permits to the Governing Board. In addition, the public will have the opportunity to discuss their concerns and ideas before the Board. While no agency action is requested, staff looks to gain a "sense of the Board" on the policy issues prior to drafting the next round of the proposed rule revisions. 30P/30D

BACKGROUND

A series of revisions to the Districts Consumptive Use permit rules are needed to reflect the policies of the District, reflect changes in legislature affecting water use, provide for the regulatory implementation of regional water supply plans and to support Florida's role in implementing the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project. Many of the rule changes were considered less complex and controversial, these rules were grouped together to form the "A" list of rule revisions. The Governing Board adopted the "A" list series of rules changes last month (May 2002). The Governing Board initiated rule development on the more complex rules, known as the "B" list in February 2002. Since that time, staff has been drafting rule text and white papers for the "B" list rules that include permit allocation criteria, permit duration, permit renewal procedures, reuse revisions, and water shortage/water conservation updates.

Staff has completed five noticed public workshops on the proposed revisions. The existing "B" list rule drafts and white papers are posted on the new rule making web site and staff are receiving comments and suggestions through the web. Based on comments received, staff seeks policy guidance from the Governing Board. Staff will then prepare updated draft rule language based on this guidance for all the revised "A" list rules prior to the next round of public workshops starting in September.

RECOMMENDATION

No agency action required at this time.

STAFF CONTACTS

Kenneth G. Ammon, P.E., Director, Water Supply Department, x6502 Scott Burns, Director, Water Use Regulation Division, x6817 Elizabeth Ross, Sr. Attorney, Office of Counsel, x6257 Cecile Ross, Sr. Attorney, Office of Counsel, x6343